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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/659,514

09/10/2003

Frank Tuccio

1016-013P/JAB

3616

34431 7590 09/25/2007  
HANLEY, FLIGHT & ZIMMERMAN, LLC  
150 S. WACKER DRIVE  
SUITE 2100  
CHICAGO, IL 60606

EXAMINER

MEHRPOUR, NAGHMEH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2617

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/25/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Advisory Action</b> <b>Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</b>	Application No. 10/659,514	Applicant(s) TUCCIO, FRANK	
	Examiner Naghmeh Mehrpour	Art Unit 2617	

**--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

THE REPLY FILED 11 July 2007 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

#### AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because  
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).  
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).  
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.  
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:  
Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) rejected: 1-13.  
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

#### AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).  
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).  
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

#### REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: please see the attachment.  
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.  
13. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

NAGHMEH MEHRPOUR  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 7/11/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to the applicant's argument that "*Ovard fails to teach a portable transponder powered by a polling signal*".

The examiner asserts that *Ovard in the back ground (patent 5649296) mentioned that is known to the ordinary skill of art, that a communication systems can be used in various applications such as identification applications. The interrogator is configured to output a polling or interrogation signal which may comprise a radio frequency signal including a predefined interrogation code using which the interrogator may address remote transponders. The remote transponders of such a communication system are operable to transmit an identification signal responsive to receiving an appropriate polling or interrogation signal. More specifically, the appropriate transponders are configured to recognize the predefined code. The transponders receiving the code can subsequently output a particular identification signal which is associated with the transmitting transponder. Following transmission of the polling signal, the interrogator is configured to receive the identification signals enabling detection of the presence of corresponding transponders. Such communication systems are useable in*

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identification applications such as inventory or other object monitoring. For example, a remote identification device can be attached to an object of interest. Responsive to receiving the appropriate polling signal, the identification device is equipped to output an identification signal. Generating the identification signal identifies the presence or location of the identification device and the article or object attached thereto.

In response to the applicant's argument that "Ovard fails to determine an identity of the audio signal detected and associate the identity of the transponder with the identity of the audio signal detected"

Examiner asserts that Ovrad teaches in FIG. 10, return link communication signals received within communication station 120 and communicated using communication circuitry 106 are applied to RF control 97 within interrogator housing 14. RF control 97 operates to selectively couple one of communication circuits 106 with receive path 87 responsive to control from microcontroller 70 as described above. Return link communication signals from RF control 97 are applied to adjustment circuitry 96 within housing 14. Adjustment circuitry 96 is configured to receive the return link communication signals from RF control 97 and to adjust at least one electrical characteristic of the return link communication signals. In an exemplary configuration, adjustment circuitry 96 is configured to adjust the power level of the return link communication signals. More specifically, the depicted adjustment circuitry 96 comprises automatic gain control (AGC) circuitry. The automatic gain control circuitry

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is configured to monitor the power of the return link communication signals, compare the power with a threshold value and adjust the power of the return link communication signals responsive to the comparison. **Adjustment circuitry 96 comprising automatic gain control circuitry includes a variable gain amplifier 150 (audio), a coupler 152, a detector 154 and a loop filter 156.** Return link communication signals received from RF control 97 are applied to variable gain amplifier 150 which adjusts the power level of the return link communication signals responsive to control from loop filter 156. Coupler 152 directs a portion of the power of the return link communication signals to detector 154 which converts the received power into a voltage. The converted voltage is directed to loop filter 156. Loop filter 156 compares the received voltage from detector 154 representing the power level of the return link communication signals with a reference voltage. Thereafter, loop filter 156 outputs a control signal to variable gain amplifier 150 which adjusts the power of the return link communication signals applied to receiver 95 responsive to the comparison. Although not shown, circuitry may be provided to permit adjustment of the reference voltage of loop filter 156 similar to that of potentiometer 137 of communication station 120.

### **Conclusion**

2. **Any responses to this action should be mailed to:**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naghmeh Mehrpour whose telephone number is 571-272-7913. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00- 6:00.

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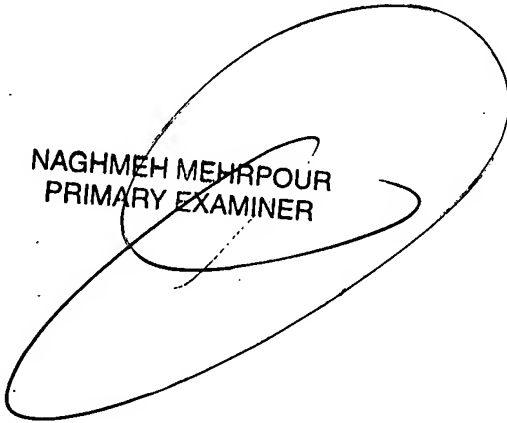
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah be reached (571) 272-7904.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NM

September 17, 2007



NAGHMEH MEHRPOUR  
PRIMARY EXAMINER